LINCOLN SENSE

Society of Lincoln Cent Collectors • Dr. Sol Taylor, President • 13515 Magnolia Blvd. • Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

SLCC is dedicated to the collecting and study of the LINCOLN CENT. Our journal, LINCOLN SENSE, is published six times a year. Annual membership is $15 and foreign mailing is $20. Life membership is available at $150.

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Note: The prices realized have not been received by publication time, so they will appear in the next issue of LINCOLN SENSE. SORRY. HERITAGE promised the prices realized many weeks ago, but did not deliver as of 3/13/98. So we went to press as is.

Start a youngster collecting coins. Coins make great gifts--proof sets, birth year sets, silver dollars, etc. (In my day, a gold coin was a nice birthday or graduation gift.)

LONG BEACH SHOW

The Long Beach February show (one of three a year) was held under rainy skies. However, attendance was good for all four days and business as reported by several dealers and the auction house (Heritage) was brisk.

At the SLCC meeting, Gary Rosner showed a discovery item--a 1941 cent with the S mintmark tilted 45 degrees to the left. No one can recall seeing such an oddly placed (or misplaced) mintmark. A few tilted to the right (up to 20-25 degrees) was not that odd, but tilted to the left 45 degrees was very odd indeed. It is not something to be declared a variety as mintmark locations do not come under any special "error" or "variety" category. Several mintmarked Lincolns are known for "floating mintmarks" that is several locations under the date where the mintmark might appear. The 1926S is a good example with at least six identified locations known. Same for the 1909S.

Gary also reported that the Heritage sale brought very competitive bidding from the floor for the Indians and Lincolns--he bid on several lots and got NONE. (See prices elsewhere in this issue.)

Dr. Taylor announced he is giving a one hour program to 3rd graders in Pasadena early in March. The program consists of giving each youngster a Lincoln cent folder (1975-date), a roll of Lincolns (with a few wheats mixed in), and spending a few minutes describing the features of both sides of the coin. Then the rest of the time is spent having the kids properly place as many coins in their respective slots as possible. Trading is permitted. As a reward for the most holes correctly filled in the one hour time frame, the lucky kid gets a copy of Dr. Taylor's book, THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT, personalized by Dr. Taylor. This type of program usually gets great reviews from both teachers and students. And it may plant the seed for our future numismatists. (SLCC needs used Lincoln cent albums, low grade wheat cents, old Red Books, etc.)

MAIL BID SALE #89 Closing date March 30, 1998

Lot Description
Idaho Consignment
1 1909 VDB Gem golden blazer MS66 (or better)
2 1910 MS64 RB obv, RD rev. Sharp.
3 1912 ANACS Certificate, MS63/65 (RB)
4 1914D F12, KEY DATE, Nice even wear.
5 1916 MS62BN, lustrous, sharp
6 1917 MS63 BN, traces of red at rims, sharp
7 1917 MS64RB, sharp + 1917 MS64BN, sharp (2 coins)
8 1918 Golden gem blazer MS66RD (or better)
9 1918S MS63RB, sharp
10 1920 MS63RB, average die state
11 1926 MS63RB, early die state
12 1927 MS64RD, light toning
13 1927 MS65 RD obv, RB rev. sharp
14 1929D MS62BN, traces of red
15 1932 MS64RD, small spot on date
16 1971S and 1972S both Pf68DCAM gems (2 pcs)
Long Beach Consignment
17 1909S VDB VF20, nice even wear, similar to Lot 2 MB SALE #87 Which sold for $395.
18 1909S VDB PCGS XF45, sharp, borderline AU, Trends for $500.
19 1935D MS65RD
20 1953D Roll of 50, MS65RD, nice bright coins
21 1955S RPM#1 Triple S, MS65RD
22 1967 SMS, roll of 50 MS65RD, nice PL coins
23 1973S Pf 65RD and 1980S Pf68DCAM (2 pcs)
24 Ten shiny fresh 1943S MS65s, some traces of white, no rust
End of Mail Bid Sale #89. Mail your bids early.
Quality consignments wanted. Remember, there is NO BUYER'S FEE on SLCC Mail Bid Sales.

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PCGS SET REGISTRY

The Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) publishes an annual directory of the World's Finest Coin Collections. In the 1998 edition, SLCC member, Stewart Blay holds the distinction of the finest Lincoln Cent collection, broken down by BU and proof collections. See data that follows.

Lincoln CentsProof
1909 to 1964
31 REQUIRED COINS ✦ FINEST POSSIBLE SET: 67.46

The proof Lincoln cents contain what are considered among the rarest cameo issues in all of 1950 to 1970 proof coinage — the 1951 and 1952 Lincoln cents. These dates compare favorably in rarity to the 1950 cameo Franklin. To date, the 1951 Lincoln has had only 15 examples graded by PCGS in either PR65CAM or PR66 CAM. The 1952 has had 4 examples graded in PR65CAM, 8 in PR66CAM, and 2 in PR67CAM. No examples of either date have been certified in Proof 65 or higher grade in Deep Cameo. All the other dates in the series can be acquired in DCAM, though many of the dates are quite rare in this condition. Of these, the 1957 is currently the rarest date in DCAM, with a total of only 7 coins graded. Following closely is the 1953 with 8 coins in DCAM, the 1950 with 11, the 1954 with 13, the 1955 with 16, the 1960 Small Date with 19, the 1970-S Small Date with 23, the 1958 with 25, the 1956 with 27, and the 1959 with 30. The 1960 Large Date and 1961 are also quite scarce, with only about 60 of each graded in DCAM to date. The 1962 follows closely with about 80 examples graded in DCAM to date, of which only 17 are PR68DCAM. The 1963 has roughly double the total of the 1962. As with the Jefferson nickel series, the 1964 date is the "least rare" DCAM issue in the Lincoln cent series. To date, approximately 150 examples have been graded in DCAM by PCGS, though only 15 were certified as PR69DCAM.

The Lincoln cent series is a real "sleeper" set. Few proof coins from this era were struck with exceptional cameo contrast. Far fewer survived the ensuing decades relatively intact. Any collectors who manages to assemble a set of these coins with the majority of issues in Deep Cameo will own a set few will be able to duplicate.

ALL-TIME FINEST				CURRENT FINEST			
Collection	Grade	% Complete	% RD	Collection	Grade	% Complete	% RD
1. Stewart Blay	66.97	100%	100%	1. Stewart Blay	66.97	100%	100%

Discussion of Sets

Stewart Blay

Stewart Blay's matte proof Lincolns are much like his mint state examples — magnificent. Again, listing the finest knowns would be a labor of repetition, so we'll just say this — of the first nine coins in the collection, seven are finest known or tied for that distinction. An absolutely phenomenal set, there is little else to say.

Lincoln Cents
Mint State, 1909 to 1964
152 REQUIRED COINS ✦ FINEST POSSIBLE SET: 66.43

Though there are many popular series, perhaps the most collected is the Lincoln cent. It is the set that introduces many youngsters to the hobby and is overlooked by many as a "serious" series. Though the modern dates are easy to come by, even in circulation, putting together a complete set in mint state is anything but simple. Aside from being an enormous set, 152 coins from 1909 to 1964, there are many dates that are quite rare. The 1909-S VDB is perhaps the most famous of the Lincoln series, but in MS64 or better it is not even near the most rare. The 1922 plain (no "D" mintmark) is so difficult to find that most collectors are lucky to have a MS63RB. Other rare dates include the 1914-S and 1923-S as well as the 1914-D. PCGS had graded only four 66s from all three of these issues combined. Though there may be a lot of Lincoln cents and Lincoln cent collectors, a high grade set of mint state examples is still very difficult to come by.

ALL-TIME FINEST				CURRENT FINEST			
Collection	Grade	% Complete	% RD	Collection	Grade	% Complete	% RD
1. Stewart Blay (1909 to 1943)	66.47	100%	99%	1. Stewart Blay (1909 to 1943)	66.47	100%	99%

Discussion of Sets

Stewart Blay

Stewart Blay has made collecting ultra-high grade Lincolns his pursuit. He has no fewer than three 1922 plains with the lowest graded 64RD. Though he has so far limited himself to the era of 1909-1943 (thus explaining how his average grade is higher than the finest possible), he has assembled a collection that few others could even touch. His list of finest knowns is much too long for one paragraph, but the highlights include a 1919 in 69RD, a 1918 in 68RD, a 1911 in 68RD, a 1915-S in 66RD, and a 1921 which is one of two 68 RDs and this just scratches the surface! Mr. Blay continues to be an active collector and seek out only the finest examples of Lincoln cents.

OFF METAL WAR CENTS

In regard to the recent COIN WORLD story (below), SLCC has been informed that the unique 1943D cent is being shopped around for $150,000. The buyer who set the record for a Lincoln Cent last year when he paid $75,000 (+10% buyer's fee), has contacted a few collectors to see if anyone would buy it at $150,000. So far, no takers.

NGC grades private collection of eight off-metal wartime Lincoln cent errors

Eight wartime Lincoln cent wrong-planchet error coins dated 1943 and 1944 from collector John Whitney have been graded and encapsulated by Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America.

Included are one example each of the 1943 cents from the Philadelphia Mint and San Francisco Mint struck in bronze. Both have been graded About Uncirculated 58 brown. The 1943 cent is the finest of four certified by NGC, while the 1943-S error is the first from that Mint to be certified by NGC.

NGC also graded two 1944 zinc-coated steel cents struck at the Philadelphia Mint, one each grading AU-58 and Mint State 63. The NGC population of these coins is three, with the Mint State specimen being the finest of the three.

One example each of the 1944 steel cents from the Denver and San Francisco Mints are also included, and they have been certified as MS-62 and Extremely Fine 40, respectively. While NGC previously graded three 1944-D steel cents from other submitters, Whitney's 1944-S is the first from that Mint to be certified.

As a wartime emergency measure, the cents of 1943 were all supposed to have been coined on planchets of steel, coated with zinc. Those of 1944 reverted to the pre-war bronze alloy of copper and zinc, though without the trace amount of tin used until 1942. Still, numismatists have known for many years that a small number of 1943 cents were coined on bronze planchets and that a somewhat greater number of 1944 cents were mistakenly coined in steel.

Rare and highly desired by collectors, these 1943-44 wrong-planchet coins have been making headlines in the past few years, as a number of highly publicized sales have occurred at auction.

NGC GRADED this 1944-S Lincoln, Steel cent EF-40. The Whitney coin represents the first of its kind to be graded by the firm.

The final two coins submitted by Whitney are 1943-S cents struck on silver dime planchets. Grading AU-55 and MS-63, respectively, these are the first such wrong-planchet coins certified by NGC. NGC had not previously accepted silver cents for grading.

NGC President Mark Salzberg said: "The unique nature of these two silver-cent errors being part of an important collection dictated that we include them. We've been certifying 1943 bronze cents and 1944 steel cents all along and will continue to do so, however, NGC does not intend to accept error coins as a general practice at this time." GW

The most complete (5 of 6) private collection of off metal cents was recently slabbed by NGC. John Whitney only lacks the 1943D copper which is unique. However, his 1944S steel is also unique which means no one else can have all six coins--1943P, 1943S, 1943D copper and 1944P, 1944D, and 1944S steel. An update of the known off metal cents will be published in the new 4th edition of THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT scheduled for release early in 1999. The data have changed very little since the 1992 edition and have remained very steady for the past thirty years--very, very few new pieces have been found and authenticated.

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Illinois police investigating missing 1914-S Lincoln cent

Police in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill., are investigating the theft of a high-grade Lincoln cent valued at $18,500 allegedly removed from an overnight shipping package sent from a dealer to a collector.

According to Oakbrook Terrace police, a 1914-S Lincoln cent, graded Mint State 66 by Professional Coin Grading Service, was shipped Jan. 16 from Larry Whitlow Ltd. to a New York collector.

The PCGS grading insert has certification number 1360868.

Police said the Federal Express package arrived Jan. 19 at the home of the New York collector with no coin inside.

The coin was allegedly removed from another box inside the FedEx box, and the box was placed inside the FedEx package and resealed, police said.

Police said FedEx officials reportedly have been watching two suspects at the FedEx terminal at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago in connection with other thefts involving shipments via FedEx.

Persons with information about the missing coin are asked to contact Sgt. Rick DiPompeo at the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department at (630) 941-8320. CW

The story of the missing 1914S cent PCGS 66 was sent to SLCC by Steve Benson who noted the coin was on its way to a well-known New York collector. It is doubtful the coin could be sold on the open market since it is unique and would be recognized by any serious dealer or collector.

0383 1890 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. Some mutting of color is noted over each side. Nicely reflective mirror fields.

0384 1892 PR 65 Red NGC. Deeply reflective fields with an attractive bright orange appearance. Although the '92 is not considered rare it is one of the more elusive dates in the date series. Population: 7 in PR 65, none finer (11/97).

0385 1891 PR 64 Red PCGS. A lovely, bright golden example of a choice proof Indian cent.

0386 1892 PR 64 Red PCGS. Dazzling mint red color is accented with crimson and violet. Deeply reflective, only a few small spots prevent a higher grade.

0387 1893 PR 65 Red and Brown PCGS. Both sides are a light golden tan color with multicolored iridescence as the coin is turned under a light source.

0388 1894 PR 66 Red and Brown NGC. A fresh and brightly colored coin that shows very little browning; rather, there is just a hint of pale olive green on each side (somewhat more on the reverse). Superior quality and nearly free of all traces of carbon.

0389 1894 PR 63 Red PCGS. A choice proof that is deeply reflective and has all of its original mint red color still intact although some slight mellowing is noted throughout. A noticeable carbon spot is noted at the end of the Indian's nose.

0390 1894 PR 65 Red NGC. Nicely mirrored fields on each side; the color is a medium red and very pleasing.

0391 1895 PR 64 Red PCGS. Clean and glowing, this uniformly deep gold, crimson, and lime green example is clearly superior for the grade. Some light toning spots are noted on the obverse.

0392 1895 PR 66 Red NGC. Absolutely stunning surfaces. Not only is each side full red (the reverse is actually orange-red), but there are two peaks of oil-slick iridescence on the obverse. Just phenomenal quality, not unusual of the coins in this near complete type set that also contained the Flying Eagle and Wreath cents in AU-58, the 1853 Flying Eagle cent in 66, the 1859 cent, and so on.

0393 1896 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. A glittering, choice example naturally mellowed with light tan colorations about the obverse periphery. Essentially full red.

0421 1921 PR 64 Red PCGS. Even original color, tempered only by flesh and crimson on the reverse. A carbon spot concealed between the 7th and 8th stars is the only grade-limiting factor.

0422 1922 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. Splashes of bright gold and crimson in recent iridescence seen either side. A few minute carbon spots show in the obverse field.

0423 1922 cent PR 64 Red PCGS. Bright two-toned surfaces. 1910 nickel MS 65 PCGS. A little dot on the bison, otherwise choice. 1916 Barber dime MS 64 PCGS. Antique-golden toning frames frosty frost centers. 1917 Type One quarter MS 65 PCGS. Flashes of delicate lilac-pink on the reverse, and a 1926-S Oregon MS 64 PCGS. Mostly brilliant. (Total: 5 coins)

0424 1922 PR 66 Red PCGS. A must-see coin for the collector of Indian cents. This piece, in addition to having brightly reflective fields, has the most attractive orange-red color in its centers with deep, cherry red at the margins. A premium piece that must be seen to be fully appreciated.

0425 1923 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. Deep cherry-red color with a hint of flip-picking mint red primarily on the reverse.

0426 1924 PR 64 Red PCGS. Light, scintillating, golden color shows on both sides.

0427 1925 PR 64 Red PCGS. Specks of tan, orange and red iridescence on both sides, with very intense surfaces.

0428 1926 PR 64 Red PCGS. Even, original red color covers both sides of this lovely, neat spot free proof Indian cent.

0429 1926 PR 65 Red PCGS. A lovely proof that has rich cherry red color over its mirrored fields.

0410 1907 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. Deeply mirrored fields with a frosted device yield a nice cameo effect. Moderately and attractively toned, the few scattered carbon flecks limit the grade.

0411 1908 PR 64 Red and Brown PCGS. An original coin with some deep sweet tones on both sides, particularly the obverse. One small carbon fleck is seen above the 8 of the date.

0412 1928 PR 65 Red PCGS. Well mirrored for a copper coin, this original mint red has a slight haze overlay.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Since the last issue of LINCOLN SENSE we have signed up
he following new members:

R1268	Chris Kahl	CA	R1269	Doug Couchon	NY
R1270	James C. White	CA	R1271	Charles Gould	NY

We were notified of the recent passing of R. E. Martin of Big
apids, MI who joined SLCC in 1993. Our condolences to his
amily.

With renewals and new members our March 1, 1998 memb
otal stands at 334.

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AIL BID SALE #88 RESULTS

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid
	4.25	11	20.	21	64.	31	2.25	41	8.	51	3.
	15.	12	36.	22	80.	32	1.	42	7.50	52	65.
	12.75	13	62.	23	22.	33	1.	43	2.	53	1.50
	14.	14	401.	24	20.	34	4.	44	13.	54	4.
	15.25	15	35.50	25	36.	35	12.75	45	4.	55	.50
	8.	16	5.	26	14.	36	7.25	46	3.	56	nb
	150.	17	4.	27	10.	37	12.25	47	15.	57	25.
	20.	18	91.	28	20t	38	3.25	48	5.		
	65.	19	50.	29	5.25	39	8.75	49	4t		
0	14.	20	64.	30	4.	40	nb	50	3.		

b = no bid t = tie bid There were 23 bidders, 3 won no lots ar
ere were no late bids received. The hottest item was lot #7
hich recorded 11 bids (1907 Proof Indian cent). Lot #14, 1909
VDB VF, received 7 bids. Only two lots received no bids.

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413 1908 PR 66 Red PCGS. This gem displays moderate cameo contrast with pronounced die polish visible in the obverse fields, a characteristic of this date. Free from any spots or blemishes, a hint of orange color overlays the shield and surrounding area on the reverse.

414 1908 PR 66 Red PCGS. A flashy and glowing example with deep mirrors and a light cameo contrast. Uniformly colored in a deep antique-gold.

415 1909 PR 64 Red PCGS. Visually impressive quality for this final year proof, with bright mint color and ample contrast between the devices and mirror fields.

CERTIFIED LINCOLN CENTS

416 1909 VDB MS 65 Red ANACS; (2) 1909 VDB MS 66 Red PCGS; 1909 MS 66 Red ANACS; and a 1909 MS 66 Red NGC. A group of full red cents from the initial year of Lincoln cent production. (Total: 5 coins)

417 1909-S VDB XF 45 PCGS. Original, problem-free, and, of course, eminently collectible to the seemingly countless numbers of Lincoln cent savers.

418 1909-S VDB MS 64 Red and Brown ANACS. One of the key dates in the Lincoln cent set, a darkly toned specimen with a small amount of red patina showing in the crevices. A few minor obverse marks limit the grade.

419 1909-S VDB MS 64 Red PCGS. Splendid, original mint red color is still present over both sides. The grade is derived from light specks of carbon.

Fiery-Red Gem 1909-S VDB Cent

220 1909-S VDB MS 65 Red PCGS. A blazing red, gem example of this always-popular, key issue in the Lincoln cent series. The surfaces appear carbon-free and the devices are sharply defined throughout. A lovely, original, S-VDB from the Andrews-Kohinoor Collection.

Red Gem 1909-S VDB

221 1909-S VDB MS 65 Red NGC. Sharply struck with warm red surfaces that are virtually flawless. Always popular and always in demand.

222 1909-S MS 64 Red PCGS. S Over Horizontal S, a choice example, as are most survivors of this popular variety; (2) 1910 MS 65 Red PCGS, one mellowed to a pleasing olive-gold in the centers; 1911-S MS 65 Red PCGS, light finger smudge to the right of the portrait; 1915 MS 65 Red PCGS, splendid rose accents; 1932-D MS 64 Red PCGS, a fiery near-gem; and a 1912 PR 64 Brown PCGS, a carbon-free specimen that is layered in natural steel-blue and violet patina. (Total: 7 coins)

223 1909-S MS 65 Red PCGS. A sharply struck gem with pleasing orange-red color and no visible spots or blemishes.

6424 1910 MS 67 Red NGC. Nearly-perfect, the surfaces have a matte-like texture from heavy metal flow. Uniform, cherry-red color throughout.

6425 1910-S MS 66 Red NGC. Truly exceptional quality, the striking details are sharply defined, the surfaces exude a rich, original orange-red mint luster that is immediately appealing to the viewer. A must-see coin for the specialist.

6426 1911 MS 66 Red NGC, bright color with a carbon spot in the ear of Lincoln; 1912 MS 65 Red PCGS, cherry-red with a spot at the top of the reverse; and a 1913 MS 65 Red NGC, lovely, original color but lightly spotted. (Total: 3 coins)

6427 1911-D MS 65 Red PCGS. A boldly struck early Denver issue with full red patina exhibiting just a hint of pink color. A few stray carbon streaks in the right obverse field and some light fly-specking on the reverse are the only impediments to this gem.

Superb Red 1911-D Lincoln Cent

6428 1911-D MS 66 Red PCGS. A scarce, semi-key issue that is seldom found in gem condition, and when it is usually has some brown color or softness of strike. This is a fully struck example that has an even red color, and appears to have just been removed from an original roll. The most prominent defect are two microscopic spots to the left and right of the date, and one on the reverse above the right wheat stalk. Population: 9 in 66, none are finer at either service (8/97).

1911-S in MS 66 Red

6429 1911-S MS 66 Red NGC. A scarce, semi-key Lincoln that is seldom seen in gem condition and is usually found with a soft strike. This is a solid gem coin that has bright, original red color and is sharply struck throughout. Population: 3 in 66, none are finer (10/97).

6430 1912-D MS 65 Red PCGS. A razor-sharp strike immediately draws attention to this gem Lincoln. The original red color is only the slightest bit subdued by a thin overlay of violet toning. No spots or blemishes detract from this gorgeous coin.

6431 1912-S MS 65 Red PCGS. An attractive light orange color, this early San Francisco issue is seldom found with full mint bloom. Only upon close examination does one discover that the color on the reverse is slightly subdued, hopefully protected from any further toning by the coin's encapsulation. No spots or blemishes mar this gem.

6432 1913-D MS 65 Red PCGS. An impressive gem with satiny orange surfaces showing just a few minor ticks in the right obverse field. Exceptionally clean with no visible spots or blemishes and a full strike.

6433 1913-S MS 65 Red PCGS. Very elusive in gem condition and almost never found with full, original mint red color. This example displays a very pleasing light orange patina with no noticeable marks or blemishes. Population: 33 in 65, none higher (11/97).

6434 1914 MS 66 Red PCGS. A fiery orange-red gem with mint luster radiating from virtually flawless matte-like surfaces. Population: 15 in 65, 2 higher (11/97).

6435 1914-D XF 45 PCGS. Boldly struck for this key issue and showing only a limited amount of honest, even wear.

Splendid 1914-D MS 65 Red Lincoln Cent

6436 1914-D MS 65 Red PCGS. The surfaces on this well known Lincoln rarity are a light orange-red, accented in a deeper orange on the obverse, and lighter in hue than most coins of this issue. The fields and devices are nearly carrystless, the strike is full, and overall this is just an outstanding 1914-D cent.

Rare MS 66 Red 1914-S Lincoln Cent

6437 1914-S MS 66 Red PCGS. Well detailed surfaces that are as nearly as any we have seen on the issue, displaying a fine grain, matte-like texture and only a few scattered, insignificant flecks on the reverse. The color is a vibrant, unmellowed orange throughout. The 1914-S is a key issue in choice and better condition, being much scarcer than some of the better known Lincoln cent rarities in the higher grades of mint state. Population: 2 in 66, none finer (11/97). (See Color Photo)

6438 1915 MS 65 Red PCGS, fully struck with complete mint red over both sides. 1918 MS 65 Red PCGS, bright, flashing, orange-red surfaces, and fully struck. 1919 MS 65 Red PCGS, orange-red centers with cherry-red perimeters, and a 1920 MS 65 Red PCGS, sharply struck. (Total: 4 coins)

6439 1915-D MS 66 Red PCGS. A strict gem example with pinpoint detailing in Lincoln's portrait and in every light or haze pattern. Close examination reveals a few tiny flecks in the field on the reverse which don't detract. Certainly one of the finest known examples of this date we have ever handled. Population: 2 in 66, none higher (11/97).

6440 1915-S MS 65 Red PCGS. A scarcity at its levels of uncirculated and a true stopper among full red Lincoln cents. This specimen is extremely well struck and displays fiery orange-red brilliance over both sides. One tiny carbon speck in the left obverse field is mentioned only for the sake of accuracy. Population: 17 in 65, 1 higher (11/97).

6441 1916 MS 67 Red PCGS. Exhibiting incredible beauty and eye appeal, this razor sharp 1916 is as vibrant as the day it was struck and almost totally void of surface marks. One small pinmark in the right obverse field is the only deterrent visible to the naked eye. Population: 8 in 67, none higher (11/96).

6442 1916-D MS 65 Red NGC. This scarce mintmarked issue sports a full strike and fine-grain, matte-like surfaces. Seldom seen with full red color and in gem condition. Population: 9 in 65, only 2 finer (12/97).

Very Elusive Gem 1916-S Lincoln Cent

6443 1916-S MS 65 Red NGC. A scarce and underrated issue whose difficulty was not fully appreciated until the advent of the grading services twelve years ago. Since that time the 1916-S has proved to be a very difficult issue to locate in gem and with full red color. This is a lovely gem that has bright orange-red color on the obverse paired with deeper, cherry-red and russet on the reverse. Well but not fully struck with a few tiny flecks of carbon. Population: 5 in 65, only 1 finer (12/97).

The Only MS 66 Red 1916-S Cent Certified

6444 1916-S MS 66 Red NGC. Of the greatest rarity in this grade, this is the only MS 66 Red coin certified by either service to date (12/97). Fully struck, the surfaces are exceptionally bright and lustrous with orange-red color on the obverse and two darker stains in the left field. The reverse is slightly deeper in hue with speckled, variegated color on that side, probably due to the improperly allowed planchet stock used from 1908-25. A unique opportunity for the Lincoln cent specialist.

6445 1917 D MS 65 Red NGC. Known for mushy strikes, this coin was obviously struck from an overused working die like most 1917-Ds, but its main area of softness is not on the portrait of Lincoln but on the left and right sides of the wheat stalks and the mottos. Bright, even red color throughout, the coin shows minimal metal flow and only a speck or two of spotting on the fevers.

4446 1917-S MS 65 Red NGC. Remarkably well struck for the issue. The 1917-D and S are very difficult to find with strong details as wartime production needs stretched the mint's capacity and dies were used long after their intended retirement date. This coin has lovely orange-gold fields with an overtone of cherry-red on the central device of Lincoln. A few light specks of carbon are noted, mostly on the obverse. This is the only MS 65 Red 1917-S certified by NGC to date (10/97).

4447 1918-D MS 65 Red NGC. As a rule, 1918-D cents are found with weak strikes and subdued color. This piece, however, has full whiskers in Lincoln's beard and there is no peripheral weakness on the reverse. Furthermore, the color is a rich blend of cherry-red with some orange-red interspersed. The only defect we see is a spot of carbon or piece of debris (removable?) between the right wheat stalk and the rim. Stunning quality. Population: 8 in 65, none are finer (10/97).

Scarce 1918-S MS 65 Red Lincoln Cent

4448 1918-S MS 65 Red PCGS. Razor sharp with shimmering brilliance in the fields and hints of pale orange patina. A few scattered carbon flecks are noticed under magnification. The '18-S is one of the most difficult of all Lincoln issues as a full red gem. Population: 10 in 65, none finer (10/97).

Impeccable 1919 MS 68 Red Lincoln

4449 1919 MS 68 Red PCGS. The ultimate early Lincoln, exhibiting razor sharp detail and intensely lustrous, near-perfect surfaces. Fiery red color is mixed with lovely pastel blue colorations about the borders. Population: 14 in 68, 1 finer (10/97).

4450 1919-D MS 65 Red PCGS. A blazing, full red gem with a slightly soft strike, most evident by the lack of detail in Lincoln's beard and the wheat ears. A trace of a fingerprint is found across the lapel of Lincoln's jacket and a small carbon spot is visible in the left obverse field. On the reverse is also found the remnant of several fingerprints.

4451 1919-S MS 65 Red NGC. Another challenging coin in gem condition and with full red color, much like the previous three years' production from the San Francisco mint. This is a sharply struck coin that has exceptionally bright, orange-red surfaces. Population: 6 in 65, none are finer (10/97).

4452 1920-D MS 65 Red PCGS. An unquestioned gem with fiery orange color and no visible blemishes. A few inconsequential marks are found in the fields but no carbon spots or flecks are present.

4453 1920-S MS 64 Red NGC. A pretty example that is a muted coppery-red color and well struck. There are only a couple of very minor abrasions and carbon flecks. Population: 21 in 64, 4 finer (10/97).

Underappreciated Gem 1920-S Lincoln

4454 1920-S MS 65 Red PCGS. One of the most underappreciated rarities in the Lincoln cent series in gem condition. The strike on this wonderfully preserved example is boldly detailed in all areas while the reddish-gold surfaces show an obvious originality and lack of carbon. Only a few small marks on Lincoln's temple and a small area of discoloration below the T in CENT detracts in any way. Population: 7 in 65, none finer (10/97).

4455 1921 MS 65 Red PCGS, slightly muted; 1923 MS 65 Red PCGS, bright, blazing surfaces with slight traces of a fingerprint on each side; 1924 MS 65 Red PCGS; and a 1925 MS 66 Red NGC, superb surfaces. (Total: 4 coins)

4456 1921-S MS 64 Red and Brown NGC. The original bright red color is highlighted with an occasional bit of brown on each side. A nice looking coin for this difficult issue.

Elusive Gem Unc. 1921-S Lincoln Cent

4457 1921-S MS 65 Red PCGS. Long considered as a semi-key issue, the 1921-S is usually found with a weakly impressed mintmark and the strike overall is often soft. This piece is the exception, however, as the devices are well defined and the mintmark strongly brought up. Even red color on the obverse with a bit of bright orange intermixed on the reverse. Population: 11 in 65, none finer (10/97).

4458 1922-D MS 65 Red PCGS. Full mint bloom is present on this superb specimen which exhibits a razor-sharp strike. Nothing immediately stands out to give reason why this gem is not worthy of a higher grade.

4459 1922 No D Strong Reverse XF 40 PCGS. Of the several No D varieties of this date, the strong reverse is the most significant, as it offers the most detail and a total absence of the mintmark on the obverse. This glossy example shows a bold, clear date and LIBERTY, although Lincoln's portrait is diagnostically weak.

Rare Gem 1925-S Lincoln Cent

1925-S MS 65 Red NGC. The 1925-S is among the top three scarce Lincoln cents in gem condition, following only the 1926-S and 1931-S. Soft strikes are the norm as is subdued red color. On this piece only the beard of Lincoln shows any weakness, the reverse being unusually bold. The surfaces have the "burnt" red color that original '25-S cents possess. Very rare in gem condition and with full red color, this is one of only two such pieces certified by NGC with none finer (10/97).

6468 1926 MS 66 Red PCGS, even orange-red color with a tiny blemish in the left obverse field; 1927 MS 66 Red NGC, boldly struck with subtle rose-gold toning on the reverse; 1928 MS 66 Red NGC, a few tiny carbon specks in the obverse field; 1929 MS 66 Red PCGS, exceptionally sharp strike and virtually flawless; 1930 MS 66 Red PCGS, another nearly flawless gem with no visible spots; 1932 MS 66 Red PCGS, nearly perfect save for a tiny planchet defect near the left wheat ear on the reverse; and a 1933 MS 66 Red PCGS, richly rich orange color with no blemishes. (Total: 7 coins)

6469 MS 65 Red PCGS. Boldly struck with attractive orange-red examination reveals the obverse is lightly peppered specks.

6470 MS 65 Red PCGS. Boldly struck for the issue, with no over the lustrous golden of this challenging

Gem 1926-S Lincoln Cent

6471 **1926-S MS 65 Red and Brown NGC.** Shades of muted red are complemented with some soft tan patination. A scarce, semi-key date in the series.

6472 1926-S MS 64 Red PCGS. Full red, and just a tiny mark or two from the gem class. Above average strike and luster. This is the highest Red grade available, and one of only 19 MS 64s to have been graded so far by PCGS (8/97). Of the dates prior to 1930, this and the 1922 No D are the only dates unavailable in PCGS MS 65 Red.

1900 Gem Proof Cent

6480 1900 PR 65 Red PCGS. Fully reflective, shimmering surfaces and light, original toning make this a very attractive, not to mention high grade, example of this date. One of 2,262 proofs originally struck in 1900. A popular year as the millenium approaches.

The Finest Known 1926-S Cent

6473 **1926-S MS 65 Red NGC.** A premier rarity in the Lincoln series, some would say the most challenging of all in the better grades of uncirculated. This particular coin is mentioned in David Lange's book on Lincoln cents. This date has the lowest certified population of MS 65 RD coins, only a single example appearing in the listings. This, by the way, is also the highest certified grade for 1926-S. This passage and a quick glance at the current population data confirms that this is still the finest 1926-S available, if not known. Even on this piece, though, the striking details are not complete on Lincoln's beard. However, the other devices are fully brought up including complete wheat stalks and peripheral lettering on the motto on the reverse. While the color is not the same red one traditionally thinks of on a 1926-P, the red on this piece is not as mellowed as, say, that on the 1925-S above. The surfaces are lovely and defect-free except for a tiny carbon spot above the A in STATES, a defect which may serve as an identifier for pedigree purposes in the future.

6474 1927-D MS 65 Red PCGS. Satiny red surfaces display considerable mint luster on this high grade cent. A noticeable fingerprint is found in the right obverse field.

6475 1927-S MS 65 Red PCGS. Creamy orange surfaces are accented with delicate rose toning on this scarce, underrated date. Very pleasing with no noticeable spots or blemishes. Population: 13 in 65, none higher (11/97).

6476 1928-D MS 66 Red NGC. An exceptional, high grade example of this issue that is common in low grades but quite challenging in the upper reaches of mint state. This is a bright, cherry-red coin that has even color throughout and surprisingly strong striking details. A few small specks of carbon are noted on the reverse, the only one worthy of individual mention being just to the right of the T in CENT. Population: 4 in 66, none are finer (10/97).

6477 1928-S MS 65 Red NGC. Surprisingly well struck with some detail even showing on Lincoln's beard. The surfaces overall are a bright orange-red with a few specks and streaks of carbon or discoloration on each side, none of which are important enough to affect the grade or color of this lovely gem.

6478 1929-D MS 65 Red PCGS, full red color; 1930-D MS 65 Red NGC, fiery orange surfaces; 1930-S MS 65 Red NGC, a few tiny spots in the obverse field; 1931 MS 65 Red PCGS, a few inconsequential marks; 1932-D MS 65 Red PCGS, light flyspecking on the obverse and reverse; and a 1933-D MS 65 Red PCGS, a trace of a fingerprint in the obverse field. (Total: 6 coins)

6479 1929-S MS 66 Red NGC. The blazing, cherry-red color of the coin is accented by an occasional streak of lilac. Strong visual appeal and nearly spot-free.

6480 1931-D MS 65 Red PCGS, cherry-red and lightly spotted; and a 1931-S MS 65 Red PCGS, not quite fully struck. (Total: 2 coins)

6481 1934-D MS 66 Red PCGS; 1936-D MS 67 Red NGC; 1937 MS 66 Red PCGS, a blazer; 1938-S MS 66 Red NGC, semi-prooflike on the obverse; and a 1946-D MS 66 Red NGC. (Total: 5 coins)

6482 1943-D MS 68 NGC. Unimprovable quality in this one-year type. The surfaces are bright and shimmer with mint luster. There are no spots and almost no abrasions, certainly none that can be seen with the unaided eye.

A 15% Buyer's Fee Applies To All Lots Valued Below $50,000